cess and depending upon the availability of resources, all necessary facilities would be provided in the Institute in the Ninth Plan period.

Names of airlines not desiring to opearate to/from Davangere

2528. SHRI K.R. JAYADEVAPPA:
SHRI GUNDAPPA KORWAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3543 given in the Rajya Sabha on 10th September, 1996 and to state:

(a) the names of airlines who have not desired to operate to/from Davangere;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Airports Authority of India has plans to establish airports for operation of 50 seater aircraft like Hassan in other cities of Karnataka including Davangere;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) No airlines has shown interest to operate to/from Davangere, since there is no airport.

(c) to (e) Airports Authority of India has plans to develop an airport at Hassan for operation of 50 seater aircraft. There is no request from the State Government for developing an airport at Davangere.

New Income Tax Law

2529. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are formulating a new income tax law;

(b) if so, whether it will be circulated in order to seek views of the people before introducing the same in the Parliament; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the new law is likely to be introduced in the Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Government has set up an expert Group with a view to rationalising and simplifying the Icome-tax Act, 1961 to re-write a new Direct Tax Law.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The new Direct Tax Law will be introduced in Parliament soon after the Government has examined the recommendations of the expert group and the views of the public.

Extension to officers of State Bank of Indore

2530. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of officers of the State Bank of Indore were given extension in service after superannuation during 1994 to date;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that in about 50% of these cases, the officers have been investigated by the CBI on corruption charges;

(d) whether vigilance clearance was obtained in these cases before granting extension in service;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) what action Government propose to take against the officers responsible for such unbecoming action in granting extension to the tainted officers?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and, to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House.

Order of Debt recovery Tribunal on Petition filed by Central Bank

2531. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the order of the Debt Recovery Tribunal in the petition filed by Central Bank against Patriot Management for recovery of Rs. 21 crores has resulted in workers of Patriot and Link not getting salaries since may, 1996;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whehter there is a conspiracy between the Central Bank of India and Patriot Management as alleged by the Union to deprive the workers of their salaries;

(d) whether Patriot Management proposes to go in for mass retrenchment of workers; and

(e) what steps, Government proposed to take to undo the damage done by Central Bank's action?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Central Bank of India has reported that it had filed a case against United India Periodicals (P) ltd. (UIPPL) before Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT), New Delhi on 21st May, 1996 for recovery of dues to the Bank. The DRT is yet to pronounce its final order in the case. However, the DRT had passed an interim order restraining the company from receiving lease/rental money from the tenants/lessees in the building under mortgage with Central Bank of India with the direction that the same may be paid to the Bank.

(c) Central Bank of India has denied that there is any such thing like conspiracy as alleged by the workers' Union of UIPPL.

(d) UIPPL is a private sector company. Ministry of Finance is not aware of any such proposal.

(e) The matter is at present sub judice. In any case, under Section 20(1) of the Recovery of Debts Due to Bank and Financial Institutions Act, 1993, any person aggrieved by an order made, or deemed to have been made, by a DRT can prefer an appeal to an Appellate Tribunal having jurisdiction in the matter

विदेशियों द्वारा मादक द्रव्यों और औषधियों की तस्करी

2532. **प्रो॰ विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा:** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) पिछले पांच वर्षों के दौरान मादक द्रव्यों और औषधियों की तस्करी में कितने विदेशी पकड़े गए हैं;

(ख) उनमें से कितने लोगों को सजा हुई और उनकी सजा की अवधि कितने वर्ष की थी; और

(ग) क्या सरकार कुछ अन्य देशों की तरह भारत में मादक द्रव्यों की तस्करी के अपराध के लिए मृत्यु दण्ड का प्रावधान करने का विचार रखती है?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री पी॰ चिदम्बरम): (क) उपलब्ध सूचना के आधार पर वर्ष 1992 तथा 1996 (नवंबर) के बीच गिरफ्तार किए गए 65,681 व्यक्तियों में से 669 विदेशी थे।

(ख) सरकार ने विदेशी सिद्ध दोषियों की सूचना अलग से नहीं रखी है। तथापि उपर्युक्त अवधि के दौरान 8020 व्यक्ति सिद्ध दोष पाए गए।

(ग) वर्ष 1989 में संशोधित एन॰डी॰पी॰एस॰ अधिनियम में अपराधों के पुनः करने के विभिन्न मामलों में पहले से ही अनिवार्य मृत्यु दंड का प्रावधान है।

Setback to Video-Cassette Marketing by NFDC

2533. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the video cassette marketing by NFDC has suffered;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken to remedy the situation?